



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 3731**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application**

Inventor(s): James F. Zucherman, Ken Y. Hsu, Charles J.  
Winslow, John Flynn  
Appln. No.: 09/978,386  
Confirm. No.: 4255  
Filed: October 16, 2001  
Title: CURVED DILATOR AND METHOD

**PATENT APPLICATION**

Art Unit: 3731  
Examiner: Vy Q. Bui

**Customer No. 23910**

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#10/B  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

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Signature Date: December 24, 2003

(Attorney Signature)

**RESPONSE B UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

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This RESPONSE B is in reply to the Office Action mailed August 27, 2003.

**Amendments**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

12/30/2003 SDENB081 00000090 061325 09978386  
02 FC:2251 55.00 DA